

"Alabama company takes stake in Civil Constructors"

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Civil Constructors, which has had a hand in local projects range from LP Field and the Schermerhorn Symphony Center to State Route 840, has aligned itself with Dunn Investment Co., one of the Southeast's largest construction companies. As part of the agreement, Dunn is making a strategic investment in Civil, the size of which is not being disclosed.

Dunn Investment is a five-generation, family-owned business that offers a range of construction and real estate services. The company — not to be confused with the JE Dunn firm now building an \$80 million residential high-rise in The Gulch — has been in business since 1878 and specializes in ready-mix concrete supply, asphalt paving and civil construction and real estate development.

Civil was founded in 1994 by Joe Rodgers, John Valiquette and Steve Adcock. The company, which has in recent years worked on the new levee around the Gaylord Opryland complex as well as the infrastructure for the Trolley Barns office complex, is based on Downs Boulevard in Franklin.

Officials say their partnership creates one of the largest road construction, excavating and paving companies in the region. With its Civil investment, the Dunn organization now comprises seven operating companies.

"Considering their rich history and diverse line of services, Dunn is well positioned to continue Civil Constructors' reputation as a company that exceeds our customers' expectations on large and small projects," said Rodgers, who will remain president of Civil Constructors and retain an ownership stake in the company.

Tortola Advisors, the restructuring advisory firm led by Steve Curnutte, advised Civil on the transaction, which began taking shape early this year.

"Our organizations share a similar commitment to delivering the highest quality work performed by our own expertly trained professionals," said Will French, CEO of Dunn Investment. "Our joint focus on managing projects effectively throughout the process ensures that this will be a successful partnership."